

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please cancel Claims 1-5 without prejudice and substitute the following:

6. A method for the treatment or prevention of pathological or pre-pathological conditions derived from phytate deficient states, comprising administering a food product prepared from the germ flour of fruits selected from the group consisting of cereals, carob and mixtures thereof.

7. A method according to Claim 6, wherein the cereal is selected from the group consisting of wheat, rye, corn, and mixtures thereof.

8. A method according to Claim 6, wherein the fruit is carob.

9. A method according to Claim 6, wherein the flour is used in a daily proportion of 30 to 60 g.

10. A method according to Claim 6, wherein the pathological condition is kidney stones.